

# CAVE-IN TRAPS PAIR, ONE DIES

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## Work Two Hours In Rescue Try

By DICK FRIEND

Fellow employees and county firemen worked valiantly for nearly two hours to save a workman buried under tons of sliding sand at the bottom of a 300-foot pit but lost their race with death Friday night.

Frantic digging by shovel and bare hands enabled rescuers to snatch another worker from death. He was buried to the armpits in the treacherous sand.

Victim of the tragedy was Joseph Salvaggio, 28, of 2421 Lomita Blvd. He and John D. Robertson, 34, of Rolling Hills, plant superintendent, were planting dynamite charges in the Chandler Sand and Gravel Co. pit, at 26311 Narbonne Ave., when they were trapped by a gigantic landslide.

Five years ago to the month, in February, 1950, a severe slide claimed the life of a 53-year-old worker, who was buried for more than 22 hours in the sand. Two others narrowly escaped death in the tragedy.

Funeral services for Salvaggio will be held Wednesday morning at the A. M. Gamby Chapel in Lomita. He is survived by his widow and three children.

Falling sand periled rescue workers while they dug to free Salvaggio. Wooden planks, finally were wedged into place to hold back the slipping gravel as others struggled to remove sand from around the victim.

Firemen fed oxygen from a resuscitator to Salvaggio, but were unable to revive him.

Night plant operator Melvin White, a witness to the tragedy, related this account of the slide: "I was working on the plant atop the pit when I heard sand shifting way down below. I knew something was wrong and sent one of the workmen down to see if Joe and Johnny were okay.

"I got to the bottom and hauled up that they were trapped in a landslide. I hit the emergency horn and started to shut down the plant.

"Only a couple of men were working, and they came over. I told one to telephone for help, and we started down into the hole.

"Joe's hands were sticking out of the sand; Johnny was buried up to his chest. We dug frantically with our hands to free them, but sand kept sliding down faster than we could push it away."

Free Robertson County firemen from the Lomita station arrived, and Captain Chuck Cornell, and firemen Gerald Hibbard and Phil Wesselberger aided the workmen in freeing Robertson. He suffered shock and exposure, but otherwise was unhurt.

Firemen attempted to shovel (Continued on Page 2)



MIKE MARIENTHAL ... The 'Y' Helped Him

## MARIENTHAL WILL SPEAK AT Y MEET

Mike Marienthal, football coach at Narbonne High School, will address the kick-off dinner for the YMCA's fund raising campaign Tuesday in the American Standard Cafeteria, 300 Crenshaw Blvd., at 6:30 p.m. His start in football began as a boy at the downtown YMCA. He was heralded as one of UCLA's most promising guards as a sophomore, but lost a leg in the Pacific fighting. When he returned he decided to take up coaching.

Elmer W. Whaley, Torrance YMCA Boy of the Year and finalist in state competitions, will be presented with a plaque at the ceremonies. The Torrance YMCA's goal in the campaign is \$12,000.

## VETERAN OFFICER INJURED

California Highway Patrolman Jesse W. Holmes, of 1121 Eriel Ave., a former Torrance police officer, was seriously injured last week when his motorcycle collided with an auto in the Carson area.

At St. Francis Hospital, Lynwood, in "fair condition," Holmes suffered a fractured arm and shoulder, and head injuries. Doctors said his arm was broken in seven places. He was in surgery at Harbor General Hospital for nearly six hours.

The CHP said Holmes was enroute to the Compton office of the Highway Patrol, to which he is assigned. Witnesses told officers the auto, westbound on Monroe St., was making a turn on Alameda St., and the driver apparently did not see Holmes' motorcycle.

He was hurled more than 100 feet by the impact. Driver of the auto was Worthy Gingery, 53, of Long Beach.

## Annexation Hearing Set Wednesday

Hearings on the proposed annexation of territory in the Palos Verdes peninsula to Torrance will be held Wednesday night in the City Hall Council chambers before the Planning Commission.

This is the first of two public hearings on the question, with the second slated on Feb. 16. Planning Commissioners studied the area under discussion Saturday in a field trip.

If the crowd at the hearings is large enough, officials indicated that the hearing might be moved to the Civic Auditorium. Groups wishing to be heard were requested to notify Planning Secretary George Fowell, so that time could be allotted for a spokesman.

## GET HERALD-MERCHANTS VALUABLE COUPON BOOK

Have you received your Torrance HERALD and Merchants coupon book? If you haven't you are losing out on \$65 in gifts of merchandise, service, and worthwhile discounts.

This book is issued to those who renew their present HERALD subscription or to those who become a subscriber. This coupon book can be obtained only through one of the subscription campaign workers.

The campaign is just getting started, if you haven't been called on yet by one of these workers, you will be soon. However, if you want one of these books today, call the campaign department, FAIRfax 8-4005 or come to The Torrance HERALD office. One of the workers will be instructed to call on you, or you can pay the worker in the office. Do it today.

The names of the campaign workers will be published in THE HERALD, Feb. 10. Watch for this list. Pick your favorite worker to win.

# Shopping Center Plans Told, Grading Started

## Markets, Drug Stores Signed

Announcement of the start of one of America's most outstanding regional shopping and community centers, to be located on a 50 acre plot at the southwest corner of Hawthorne Ave. and 174th St., was made Saturday by Sidney F. Brody, president of Brody Investment Company, Beverly Hills.

## High School Student Wins Science Award

A local high school student was among the science-minded 668-agers from 24 states and the District of Columbia chosen last Friday as winners of 280 honorable mention awards in the 14th annual Science Talent Search.

Named for the honor was Frederick A. Eisinger, 16, of 5210 Vanderhill Rd., a student at Redondo Union High School. Eisinger was one of 15 California students and one of seven from Los Angeles area named for the award.

Judges chose the honorable mention winners from 2846 competitors representing schools in every state and Washington, D. C. Each winner will be recommended to a college or university for scholarships.

Selection of the winners was based on their scholastic records and teachers' reports, their science projects, and their grades in a stiff science aptitude examination.

## CITY NOTES EDUCATION OF ADULTS

Vernon Sheblak, principal of Torrance Adult School, announces that Public School Adult Education Week will start today, inaugurated by county and city officials and community leaders.

To further interest in adult education classes, an open house was held Friday evening at the high school cafeteria. During this week, all citizens of Torrance are invited to attend any adult class in which they are interested.

The adult education program in Los Angeles City and County, now the largest of its kind in the nation, is already serving more than 400,000 residents.



FREED FROM DEATH PIT ... County firemen pull 28-year-old Joseph Salvaggio of Lomita from a bank of sand which cost him his life Friday evening. Salvaggio was buried for nearly two hours while rescue workers moved tons of sand to free him. Shown here are Engineer Hal Carlson of County Engine 56 (Rolling Hills), Captain Chuck Cornell (in helmet) and Fireman Gerald Hibbard (leaning on right) of County Engine 4 of Lomita. Salvaggio was pronounced dead at Harbor General Hospital. Herald Photo by Reid Bundy

## SPARKS SET \$250 BLAZE

Sparks carried from a nearby incinerator apparently caused a \$250 fire in a garage owned by Julian Carrines, of 509 W. 219th St., county fire officials reported Friday.

When firemen arrived, Carrines had moved his car from the garage and was fighting the flames with a garden hose. The sparks apparently came from an incinerator owned by Mrs. Laura Diaz, of 500 W. 218th Pl., who said she had just set fire to her trash.

## North Torrance Zone Plan OK'd

A zoning plan for north Torrance was finally recommended by the Torrance Planning Commission, Tuesday night with a large portion of the controversial 174th zone designated as R-3 (multiple family dwellings).

After many protests from the North Torrance Civic Improvement Assn., and a number of other residents of the area, the commission decided that the area along 174th St. from Prairie Ave. eastward should not be zoned for commercial use.

Instead, the commission decided that the area along 174th from Almsworth to a point 144 feet west of Glenburn should be zoned for multiple family units. The rest of the area was unchanged.

Group Hits Zoning Led by NTCIA president Muri A. Reeves, the North Torrance group declared with shopping centers at 174th and Crenshaw and along Redondo Beach Blvd., and a proposed new center at 174th and Hawthorne, there was no need for commercial zoning of 174th.

The group also feared for the safety of children in the area, as well as the type of business which might be placed in the area.

As finally recommended, the north Torrance zoning plans call for additional commercial zoning at the northeast and southeast corners of 174th and Hawthorne, southeast and southwest corners of 174th and Crenshaw, and the northwest and southeast corners of 182nd and Arlington.

Apartment OK'd Multiple family classifications were approved for the area. (Continued on Page 9)

## Park Again In Kissel Tract Plan

The "now you see it, now you don't" park site in the controversial Harry Kissel tract in southwest Torrance has apparently been restored to tract plans, the Planning Commission was informed Tuesday night.

Although the commission has not yet seen final revised plans for the area, it received a letter from the Recreation Commission stating that its members had seen revised plans showing the park at its original site.

When tract maps were submitted, they omitted the park, which was on master plans. Because of this, the lack of access roads, and other objections, the Planning Commission two weeks ago sent Kissel's plans back to him.

Decision Postponed In other action, the commission postponed a decision for two weeks on the application of the G and G Construction Co. to build 98 homes in south Torrance.

Original plans had called for more than 100 homes to be built on a 20 per cent grade. City Engineer Ronald Bishop said this was acceptable from an engineering standpoint, but commissioners wanted to study the maps further.

The Dalton Development Co. plan for a new tract, No. 20651 between 184 and 196th Sts., along Casimir Ave., was recommended for approval. Plans for Tract 15870, presented (Continued on Page 9)

ARCHITECTS RENDERING ... A sketch of the new \$9,000,000 South Bay Shopping Center to be erected on a 50-acre plot at the corner of 174th St. and Hawthorne Ave. shows proposed design for the new commercial development. Plans were unveiled Saturday by Brody Investment Co. Slated for the center is a 54 lane bowling alley and recreation center, supermarkets, department stores, drug stores, and other shops.